Case No.: 56842US002

SEP 1 1 2002 THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

MITTELSTADT, WILLIAM A.

Application No.:

09/888943

Group Art Unit:

3743

Filed:

June 25, 2001

Examiner:

Nihir B. PRECEIVED

Title:

RESPIRATOR VALVE

Information Disclosure Statement

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

September 5

Date

ned by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the following applications, copies of which are enclosed:

- 1. U.S. Serial No. 09/442,082 to Bowers filed November 15, 1999 entitled Uni-Directional Fluid Valve.
- 2. U.S. Serial No. 09/986,346 to Bowers filed November 8, 2001 entitled Uni-Directional Fluid Valve.
- 3. U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877 to Japuntich et al. filed May 23, 1995 entitled Filtering Face Mask That Has A New Exhalation Valve.
- 4. U.S. Serial No. 09/677,637 to Japuntich et al. filed October 3, 2000 entitled Fibrous Filtration Face Mask Having A New Unidirectional Fluid Valve, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877.
- 5. U.S. Serial No. 09/678,579 to Japuntich et al. filed October 3, 2000 entitled Fibrous Filtration Face Mask Having A New Unidirectional Fluid Valve, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877. 09/12/2002 HAHMED1 00000008 133723 09888943

01 FC:126

180.00 CH

Application No.: 09/888943 Case No.: 56842US002

- d

6. U.S. Serial No. 09/677,915 to Japuntich et al. filed October 3, 2000 entitled *Fibrous Filtration Face Mask Having A New Unidirectional Fluid Valve*, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877.

- 7. U.S. Serial No. 09/678,580 to Japuntich et al. filed October 3, 2000 entitled *Fibrous Filtration Face Mask Having A New Unidirectional Fluid Valve*, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877.
- 8. U.S. Serial No. 09/837,714 to Japuntich et al. filed April 18, 2001 entitled *Filtering Face Mask That Has A New Exhalation Valve*, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877.
- 9. U.S. Serial No. 09/837,800 to Japuntich et al. filed April 18, 2001 entitled *Filtering Face Mask That Has A New Exhalation Valve*, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877.

For the Japuntich et al cases, applicants are only furnishing the Examiner with a copy of the '877 application, as the divisional applications are the same.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, but prior to the mailing of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311. Please charge the fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723, and if necessary, please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

September 3, 2002

Date

Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900

Telephone No.: 651-736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company P.O. Box 33427 St. Paul, MN 55133-3427

Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833